forests and tourism etc, were discussed and the decisions taken at its earlier meeting held in April 1981 were reviewed at the meeting of the Council held in September, 1983.

(c) to (e) The issue were reviewed and examined at subsequent meetings of the Standing Committee in the Council. The recommendations made by the Council and the Standing Committee were referred to the Planning Commission, concerned Central Ministries and the State Government for appropriate action.

Earthquake in India

1920. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item which appeared in the *Indian Express* of the 27th October, 1985 under the caption "Quakes will hit India, says seismologist " ;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ; and

(c) what remedial measures Government propose to take in thi regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Earthquakes are a phenomena which have been taking place in India from times immemorial. Their recurrence cannot be denied or predicted. The Himalaya and the Northeastern region are part of a world wide zone of earthquakes. The currently held geological views are that these earthquakes are caused by the Northeastward movement of the Indian land mass which is apparently slipping slowly beneath Eurasian land mass. This interaction coupled with some geological processes taking place at great depths, may cause earthquakes in the foot hill region of the Himalayas, Indo-Gangetic plains interior of the Himalaya, Shillong Plateau and the Northeastern region.

Indeed, a number of devastating earthquakes have occurred in North India during the last 100 years such as Shillong (1897) Kangra (1905) Quetta (1931 & 1934) Bihar (1935) and Assam (1950) Earthquakes of moderate magnitude have occurred in several other parts of the country such as at Koyna (1967). The attached list gives a few more as samples of earthquakes indicating their distribution in time and space. *(See below)*.

The Government is aware of whatever is known about the causes of earthquakes. Using observational network of seismic and other instruments through out the country, various codes have been devised for making earthquakes-resistant large civil engineering structures, and buildings in consultation with Civil Engineers Geologists, Seismologists and Indian Standard Institution. These codes are available for use and continuous efforts are made to improve upon these codes for better earthquake resistant designs through R&D efforts.

(c) Regarding advice and caution, the people should take into consideration specified codes while planning their buildings in earthquakes-prone areas, particularly in the North and Northeast India.

In Addition to taking note of the evolved codes for new buildings and structures, there has to be a conscious effort to create awareness about earthquakes and use of available measures to mitigate the likely losses to property and life. The Government has taken necessary steps like promoting seminars and symposia, for creating awareness and accelerating R&D efforts.

List of Earthquakes and their distribution in time and space

	Year	Region	Magnitude
1.	1819	Kutch	8.3
1(a)	1897	Assam	8.7
2.	1905	Kangra	8.0
3.	1930	Dhubri (Assam)	7.1
4.	1931, 1934	Quetta	7.0, 7.5
5.	1934	Nepal/India	8.3
6.	1938	Near Indore	6.3
7.	1945	Almora	6.5
8.	1945	Kangra	6.5
9.	1950	Assam	8.6
10.	1956	Delhi	6.4
11.	1959	Assam	6.1
12.	1959	Assam	6.6
13.	1960	Nicobar	6.0
14.	1967	Koyna	7.0

Trading in nuclear power among developing countries

1921. SHRI RAMANAND YADAV : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have held discussions with the developing countries for extending regional co-operation for trading in nuclear power ;

(b) whether Government have obtained the consent of developing countries on the formation of a regional cooperative agency of developing countries for trading in nuclear power ;

(c) whether Government propose to make available fellowship for providing training in nuclear technology to personnel from developing countries ;

(d) if the answer to parts (a), (b) and (c) above be in affirmative how many developing countries have given their consent for trading in nuclear power and what is the number fellowship offered ; and

(e) whether India has mastered the technology of making nuclear reactor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (e) The Regional Cooperative Agreement of which India is a signatory provides for cooperation in peaceful uses of atomic energy among countries of South Asia, South East Asia and the Pacific Basin. There is, how-